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instead of *gift*, *endow*, as proposed by the writer, was the necessity in which I was placed of choosing a verb which, like *give* for instance, admitted of the same construction as *donare*; namely, *give something to somebody*; while *gift*, *endow*, did not admit of such taxis. At the same time, however, I for the nonce attributed to *give*, exactly the same meaning as is indicated by *donare*. Now, I am not particular about the word *give*; my assumption can be proved with any other verb, provided this verb have, or be, by agreement, assumed to have the same meaning as *donare*, and, what is essential, admit of the same construction.

C. L. SPERANZA.

Columbia College.

'G. T. S.'

TO THE EDITORS OF MOD. LANG. NOTES:

SIRS:—May I join an unauthorized voice to the prayer addressed to Messrs. Macmillan & Co., in your January Number? Could they possibly be induced to change that ugly and vulgar 'G.T.S.' mark on their *Golden Treasury Series*, and go back to their old distinguished looking circle design?

If it is not an impertinence, might I suggest that MOD. LANG. NOTES would try to influence American printers to divide *know-ledge* and *acknow-ledge*, and not fail to set the example.

W. F. STOCKLEY.

University of New Brunswick.

#### BRIEF MENTION.

An Association for Spelling Reform (*Norsk rettskrivnings samlag*) has been formed in Christiania, Norway. The circular of invitation to join the society was issued on the sixth of January, 1892, the eightieth birthday of Mr. Knud Knudsen, the old purist and spelling reformer, in acknowledgment of his services to the cause of language and spelling reform in Norway. It is the purpose of the society to work for the most part in the same manner as the Swedish *Rättstavnings sällskapet*—an organisation established some years ago—by publishing a periodical devoted to the cause of spelling reform and by setting a good practical example in this respect for the literary and scientific productions of the members. Among those who signed the call are authors

such as Björnstjerne Björnson; linguists and phoneticians such as Aug. Western, and teachers such as P. Voss, one of the proprietors and directors of the largest school for higher education in Norway.

Teachers of Italian are often forced to deplore the absence of a 'Reader,' containing judiciously selected extracts or complete stories from representative Modern Italian writers, which might serve as a fit introduction to Italian Literature. Two little volumes before us of the 'Biblioteca Italiana' published by the Librairie Hachette et Cie. (Boston, Carl Schoenhof) will do much to supply this want. They contain 'Novelle di Enrico Castelnovo,' 'Gli amici di collegio' and 'Una medaglia' of 'Edmondo de Amicis,' edited by the Rev. A. C. Clapin, M.A. The most difficult words are translated at the foot of the page, and a glossary at the end is intended to take the place of a bulkier dictionary. While rapid reading is thus assured, it may be a question, whether better results would not be obtained if the student, from the beginning, were forced to rely for his translation on his memory, rather than on the help which the footnotes may give him.

#### PERSONAL.

Professor T. W. Hunt, of Princeton College, has written a book entitled 'Ethical Teachings in Old English Authors'; it will be published in April by Messrs. Funk and Wagnalls, New York.

Dr. O. F. Emerson has been promoted to an Assistant Professorship in English Philology at Cornell University. Dr. Emerson is a graduate of Iowa College (Grinnell, Iowa); after his graduation, several years of teaching preceded his entrance at Cornell University as Fellow in English (1888-9), where in the following year he was appointed an Instructor in English, the position from which he has now been advanced. Dr. Emerson was graduated as Doctor of Philosophy at Cornell University last June; his dissertation on "The Ithaca Dialect" is published in *Dialect Notes*, Part iii (Boston, 1891).